



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/913,576	08/13/2001	Harri Elo	796.396USW1	4187

32294 7590 05/06/2004

SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.
14TH FLOOR
8000 TOWERS CRESCENT
TYSONS CORNER, VA 22182

EXAMINER

SWERDLOW, DANIEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2644

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/913,576

Applicant(s)

ELO, HARRI

Examiner

Daniel Swerdlow

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 9 through 11 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In Claim 9, the final clause, "wherein placing said impedance converting means entirely between the interface of the low-pass filter block on the transmission link side and the first interface" lacks the necessary predicate to constitute a method step. Examiner suggests rewording to read, --wherein said impedance converting means is placed entirely between the interface of the low-pass filter block on the transmission link side and the first interface--.

Claims 10 and 11 similarly lack necessary predicates. Examiner suggests inserting the words --the method further includes-- after "wherein".

Appropriate correction is required. In order to advance prosecution, for the purpose of this Office action examiner assumes the claims are worded as suggested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Art Unit: 2644

4. Claims 9 through 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Snow et al. (US Patent 6,418,221).

5. Regarding Claim 9, Snow discloses a signal coupler for telephone lines (i.e., transmission link) containing plain old telephone (i.e., narrowband) service and digital signals (i.e., wideband service) (column 1, lines 6-9) comprising: transmitting (i.e., transferring) plain old telephone service between 300 and 3400 Hz (i.e., in a first frequency range) and ADSL signals between 24 and 1100 kHz (i.e., in a second frequency range) over the same line (i.e., in the transmission link); connecting a signal coupler (i.e., splitter element) to the telephone line (i.e., transmission link) (Fig. 4, reference 10, 11; column 5, lines 17-29), the signal coupler comprising a passive low-pass filter (Fig. 4, reference L1, L2, C1; column lines 42-51) connected between the telephone line (i.e., transmission link) and a SLIC (i.e., first interface) (Fig. 4, reference 103) and a high pass filter (Fig. 4, reference 106; column 5, lines 63-64) connected between the telephone line (i.e., transmission link) and a hybrid (i.e., second interface) (Fig. 4, reference 107), the low pass filter passing the POTS signal and not the data signal and the high pass filter passing the data signal and not the POTS signal (column 4, lines 3-12), and resistors (i.e., discrete impedance converting means) (Fig. 4, reference R3, R4, R5, R6) that adapt the SLIC to the impedance of the telephone line without external control, wherein the resistors are entirely between the interface of the low pass filter on the line (i.e., transmission link) side and the SLIC (i.e., first interface).

6. Regarding Claim 10, Snow further discloses resistors R5 and R6 which constitute a discrete converting block between the SLIC (i.e., first interface) and the low pass filter (Fig. 4).

7. Regarding Claim 11, Snow further discloses the low pass filter having only longitudinal inductances and a transverse capacitance (Fig. 4, reference L1, L2, C1).

Art Unit: 2644

8. Regarding Claim 12, Snow further discloses the low pass filter having inductances and capacitances with resistors R5 and R6 which constitute part of impedance converting means (Fig. 4, reference L1, L2, C1, R5, R6) added to the network.
9. Claims 13 through 16 are essentially similar to Claims 9 through 12, respectively, and are rejected on the same grounds.

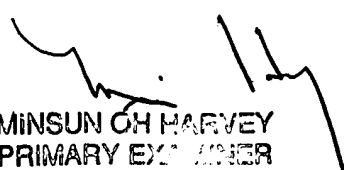
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Swerdlow whose telephone number is 703-305-4088. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forrester Isen can be reached on 703-305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ds


MINSUN OH HARVEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER